UNITED NATIONS

CAAS

International Convention against *Apartheid* in Sports

Distr.
LIMITED

CAAS/C/1992/L.3
27 October 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION AGAINST APARTHEID IN SPORTS
Third session
28-30 October 1992

REGISTER OF SPORTS CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

Note by the Secretariat

1. The boycott of apartheid in sports became the focus of the international community during the Montreal Olympic games of 1976. Thereafter, and as a result of contention concerning the boycott of those collaborating with South Africa in the field of sports, the General Assembly adopted the International Declaration against Apartheid in Sports of 1977. 1/ In 1985, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against Apartheid in Sports finalized the draft Convention against Apartheid in Sports, which was adopted by the General Assembly at its fortieth session. 2/

2. The Special Committee against Apartheid has continued to lead the campaign against apartheid in sports. At its thirty-fifth session, the General Assembly, acting on the recommendations of the Special Committee, condemned the violators of the sports boycott of South Africa and encouraged action against them. Since then, the Special Committee has compiled a Register of Sports Contacts with South Africa. In paragraph 2 of its resolution 36/172 I of 17 December 1981, the General Assembly noted with appreciation "the action of the Special Committee in publishing lists of sportsmen, entertainers and others visiting South Africa, in order to enable Governments and organizations to take any action they may deem appropriate".

3. In its resolution 40/64 G of 10 December 1985, by which it adopted the International Convention against Apartheid in Sports, the General Assembly commended the Special Committee for its efforts and requested it to continue publishing the Register of Sports Contacts with South Africa until the establishment of the Commission against Apartheid in Sports. Later, the Commission and the Special Committee agreed that the latter should continue to publish the Register.

4. In paragraph 9 of its resolution 46/79 A of 13 December 1991, the General Assembly

> "Calls upon the international community, in view of the progress made in overcoming obstacles to negotiations, ... to resume sports links with unified non-racial sporting organizations of South Africa which have received endorsement by the appropriate non-racial sporting organizations within South Africa and to assist disadvantaged athletes in that country."

5. The Special Committee, in its policy statement of 26 February 1992 concerning the boycott of apartheid, stated that

> "sportswomen and sportsmen should be advised that before undertaking activities with integrated sports in South Africa, they should consult with non-racial sporting organizations and avoid relations with government-sponsored activities or institutions.
>
> "Sports links with South Africa should be purposeful and helpful to the process of eradicating apartheid as well as supportive of the democratic, non-racial sports in the country. To achieve this end, sportswomen and sportsmen and organizations should be encouraged to consider assisting in training and contributing towards upgrading of sports facilities of township schools and of townships, participating in free or subsidized international sports events in townships, participating in fund-raising games or other events aimed at general or specific uplifting of non-racial sporting organizations and disadvantaged athletes in South Africa.
>
> "With regard to the Register of Sports Contacts with South Africa, the Subcommittee (on the Implementation of United Nations Resolutions and Collaboration with South Africa) recommends that, in view of paragraph 9 of resolution 46/79 A, those sportswomen and men who now decide to compete in South Africa with sportspersons from unified non-racial sporting organizations should no longer be included in the future issue of the Register."

6. The Register became an important instrument to boycott apartheid in sports and to persuade sporting organizations in South Africa to integrate.

7. Since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/79 A, anti-apartheid groups have not submitted names of violators of the sports boycott. This may be related to the fact that it is becoming difficult to distinguish between persons engaging in sporting contacts in South Africa with non-racial sporting organizations and persons involved with other organizations. The Commission might wish to provide guidance as to whether the Register should be maintained. In order to be able to continue to maintain the Register, non-racial sporting organizations and the liberation movements of South Africa as well as international sports federations would need to assist the Special Committee and the Centre against Apartheid by providing the information needed for this purpose.

Notes

1/ General Assembly resolution 32/105 M of 14 December 1977.

2/ General Assembly resolution 40/64 G of 10 December 1985.